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raise a revenue, yet they fail to state into what exchequer the incidental revenue was to flow. It is gratifying to note that Professor Osgood has brought this out in the course of the narrative. The reader will find many other details also, some of which are less interesting, but, on the whole, this and the two preceding volumes make a really notable contribution to our colonial history.

DAVID Y. THOMAS.

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**Ross, Edward Alsworth.** *Sin and Society.* Pp. xi, 167. Price, \$1.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1907.

In gathering together the brilliant essays that he has been contributing to the *Atlantic Monthly*, Professor Ross gives us one of those rare books that are really worth while. "New Varieties of Sin," "The Criminaloid," "Sinning by Syndicate"—no one who enjoys clear thinking and vigorous writing can afford to miss these stimulating chapters. "The founder of the Oil Trust may give us back our money, but not if he send among us a hundred Wesleys can he give us back the lost ideals." Thus does the author epitomize the moral havoc wrought by the gospel of success as preached in Big Business. Everyone admits the wickedness of the old personal sins,—lying, cheating, stealing, killing by violence; but public indignation is not yet sufficiently kindled against the franchise grabber, the food adulteror the exploiter of women and children, the neglectful railroad red with the blood of employees and passengers. Their guilt is impersonal, yet it shakes the very foundations of social order; and as Professor Ross protests vigorously, it is against such sins and not simply against personal vices that the thunderbolts of public wrath need to be directed. We could wish that he had laid more emphasis on publicity of great business affairs as a means of making public opinion effective; but one ought not to find fault with so good a book. It well deserves the wide influence invoked for it in the interesting prefatory letter of President Roosevelt.

H. R. MUSSEY.

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**Schuster, E. J.** *The Principles of German Civil Law.* Pp. xlvii, 684. Price, 12s. 6d. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1907.

This is an important contribution to the literature of comparative legislation. Mr. Schuster has compressed within less than seven hundred pages a clear discussion of the latest and greatest attempt made by any nation to codify the entire body of substantive law, and has combined with this discussion a comparison with the English common law wherever the contrast or similarities were so striking as to make such a course of particular value. The book is so arranged that besides rendering this service to the student of comparative law it is also available for use in that numerous class of cases arising out of the rapid expansion of international relations as they

affect the individual. The contrast of continental and English law is brought out in such a way that misunderstandings can be made less frequent and cases of the conflict of laws can be more easily adjusted. These comparisons are carried through the whole field of law, bringing out the differences of practice—to illustrate with examples—upon the validity of marriages, the effect of marriage on property, the rules as to settlements and trusts, the nature and effect of wills, etc.

Mr. Schuster is to be congratulated upon the care taken in the nomenclature used. Evidently no pains have been spared to get exact translations of the terminology of the codes, and where no English equivalent is available the distinction between the similar English word used and the German word is always carefully brought out. This has been by no means an easy task, for the language of the codes is so highly technical that exact translation is often all but impossible.

A short historical sketch preceding the main discussion gives an idea of the chaotic condition of German state law, which was superseded by the imperial legislation culminating in the adoption of the code in 1900. German private law now consists chiefly of the civil code and the commercial code, both of which overlap so that both must be consulted to find the law on any subject. In turn they are rounded out by numerous additional statutory supplements. The ground work of the codes is the Roman law with additions from the "common law" developed in Germany, and other provisions of entirely modern character. So far as possible the language used is simple, though the intent has not ruled the outcome as much as was hoped. The methods of expression and interpretations adopted, it is claimed, admit of adaptation to new conditions, thus obviating the stock objection to a code as a body of "dead law." But no doubt this wide margin, now left to judicial discretion, will gradually disappear and the decisions will build up a new customary law. This, however, should not blind us to the fact that though not a work of permanence, codification works for the definition of principles as opposed to the casuistic irregularity so often fostered by the absence of any co-ordinated body of law.

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**Small, Albion W.** *Adam Smith and Modern Sociology.* Pp. ix, 247. Price, \$1.25. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1907.

This book is a fragment of a more complete study of the relations between nineteenth century social sciences and sociology, according to a statement in the preface. This first volume undertakes to prove the following thesis: "Political economy, as viewed by Adam Smith, was the technology of a practical art which was strictly responsible to a moral philosophy that correlated all human activities. Political economy, after Adam Smith, lost its sense of connection with the large moral process, and became the mystery of the craft of the capitalizer. We propose an inspection of Adam Smith's economic system, for the purpose of showing that in his mind there was no